

CANTON PARK COMMISSION

BOARD MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 2013

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in a regular meeting on October 9, 2013.

Present were; Mr. Andy Black - President, Mr. Drew Pelger – Member, and Mr. Derek Gordon, Park Director/Secretary. There were very few attendees at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 4:07pm by President Black.

Meeting minutes from the September 11, 2013 Regular Meeting were reviewed by the Commissioners.

President Black motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Pelger seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Park Levy Update – Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that there were three more public meetings before Election Day. Signs have been placed strategically throughout the city. The campaign mailings are being printed and will be sent out soon. Additionally, he has not received any negative feedback regarding the levy which he takes as a good sign. The election party is also scheduled at George's Lounge downtown and details will be forthcoming.
2. 55th St NE Trailhead Acquisition - Director Gordon informed Commissioners that City Council has approved and the details are being worked out with the law department. Within the next couple weeks he hopes to have an update.
3. Security Camera Update - Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that four out of seven security cameras have been installed but are not yet active. Additionally, the costs were slightly higher than expected at Harmont and 12th Street. Director Gordon recommended that the security plan be put on hold at Waterworks. He stated the bathroom is in an inconvenient location, and installing electricity would be difficult and expensive. If the levy passes, replacing the bathroom and relocating it to an easily accessible location may be a better option.
4. Park Policy Review - Director Gordon presented the Commissioners with revised Garden Center Rental Permits. One of the permits is an indoor/outdoor permit while the other is an outdoor only permit. Additionally, a picture of the Garden Center's Grounds was presented. Director Gordon explained by splitting up the grounds surrounding the Garden Center, which he calls zones, it would be beneficial for those wishing to take wedding pictures. President Black agreed this was a good idea and suggested we table it until November.
5. Riverside Park - Project Rebuild/ NFL Grant – Director Gordon stated that he is waiting to receive the final confirmation letter from the NFL to begin planning for construction of a storage/concession area at Riverside Park in conjunction with Project Rebuild. He anticipates that construction on this project would begin in the Spring of 2014

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Making Strides for Breast Cancer Event Request - The American Cancer Society requested the use of Stadium and Monument Parks on Sunday, October 27, 2013 to hold their annual "Making Strides against Breast Cancer" 5K Fundraising Walk. The walk would start at 10am and end at 12pm. The parks will only be used to walk through. Commissioner Black motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Institution Notice for Liquor Permit - Crenshaw Park - Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that he had received a notice for a liquor permit 180 feet from Crenshaw Park. The liquor permit request was from Foodline Market. Director Gordon asked for input from the Commissioners regarding their feelings about the request. Councilwoman Chris Smith informed Director Gordon that she did not object to it. Commissioner Black said that in the past the request has either been ignored or documented as a rejection but with no contest. Commissioner Pelger suggested that we respond so that we have formal documentation. Commissioner Black motioned to object and not request a hearing so that we have formal documentation of not endorsing the request. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Garden Center Renovation Proposal - Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that he had been working with Garden Center President, Pat Smith to come up with a three phase renovation plan. Director Gordon intends for these renovations to make the facility more appealing for rental opportunities. Pat Smith presented the first phase which will cost approximately \$8,000 and be funded by the Garden Center. The first phase would include vinyl wood floor that would replace the carpet in the back area, trim around the first floor windows, painting the walls light green and a new conference table. Pat Smith informed the Commissioners that a good friend of hers with great carpentry skills agreed to make the conference table for a cost of \$400. Commissioner Black stated he was in favor of the renovations and that his only concern was the acoustics of the back portion of the room. Director Gordon explained that the second phase of the project included new furniture which would help absorb some of the sound. Dan Kunz, Assistant Park Director also added that the Park employees are able to do most of the renovations. Director Gordon stated that he would keep the Commissioners up to date on the progression of the renovations. Commissioner Black motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Stark County Agricultural Society Proposal – The Stark County Fair Board of Directors has requested permission to place two locked gates between the Stark County Fairgrounds and the Mallonn Park Property to allow for improved traffic flow during Fairground events by using the Mallonn Park entrance. A trial run was successfully conducted during the 2013 Stark County Fair with no interference to park activities. The installation of the gate would be done at the expense of the Fair Board and all events requiring use of the gate must be coordinated with the Park Office to avoid conflict with park activities. Commissioner Black motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Director's Report
 - a. Director Gordon stated that he had been working on the 2014 budget which is due at the end of October. He has made two different budgets, one if the levy passes and one if it does not. He will provide a copy of both budgets to the Commissioners via e-mail in the very near future.
2. Donation/Volunteer Recognition
 - a. United Way/Aultman - Maryland Park - During the United Way day of caring event, Aultman hospital removed benches, planted eight trees, painted the fence and removed brush at

Maryland Park. The neighbors have contacted the Park office extending their gratitude for these efforts.

- b. LEAP - Nimishillen Creek Clean-Up – An annual Nimishillen Creek Clean Up was conducted by volunteers at the portion of the creek running alongside Thurman Munson Memorial Stadium and Freeway Park. A significant amount of trash, debris, and tires were removed from the creek.

Commissioner Black motioned to move into Executive Session at 5:10pm. Commissioner Pelger seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Black motioned to exit Executive Session at 5:30pm. Commissioner Pelger seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Black motioned to move Office Manager Jackie Noall from a Part Time employee to a Full Time employee effective immediately. Commissioner Pelger seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Black motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:32pm. Commissioner Pelger seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Park Commission Meeting to be held at 4:00pm on Wednesday, November 13th at the Canton Garden Center.

Andy Black, President

Derek Gordon, Director